

## Rotary Club of San Diego

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## NEWS RELEASE

# 2008 SALUTE TO LOCAL HEROES

(January 14, 2009) – A North County couple who came to the aide of a stabbing victim at great risk to their own personal safety, are among the six people who will be honored Thursday (January 15) as local heroes by the heads of the three largest local law enforcement agencies in San Diego County.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of San Diego, the 18th Annual Law Enforcement Salute to Local Heroes recognizes average citizens who have performed courageous deeds that assisted fellow citizens and/or law enforcement. Presenting the awards will be San Diego Police Chief Bill Lansdowne, District Attorney Bonnie M. Dumanis and Sheriff Bill Kolender.

The honorees are:

- **Charlton Lee** and **Alexandra Lee** (of San Marcos) Assisted a domestic violence victim who was being stabbed by her boyfriend (Hollywood actor Shelley Malil). (Sheriff Nominees)
- **Dylan Dearborn** (of Santee) Chased a drunk driver who had just fled the scene of a fatal hit-and-run of a pedestrian and held the driver until police arrived. (DA Nominee)
- **Deon Millan** and **Dejon Rivers** (Sailors stationed on board the USS Ronald Reagan) Stopped a hatchet-wielding man attacking his girlfriend and her family members during a domestic violence assault. (DA Nominees)
- **Isaac Mendez** (of Pacific Beach) Rescued a woman who was being sexually assaulted. (SDPD Nominee)

The San Diego Rotary Club also will present an award to one organization that has made a significant contribution to public safety in San Diego County. The recipient will be announced at the end of the official program.

(More)

The Salute to Local Heroes will be held **Thursday, January 15, 2009** at the Sheraton Mission Valley, 1433 Camino Del Rio South. The event begins at 11:00 a.m. with a reception in the Chamber 2 Room. This will be an excellent opportunity for media to interview the honorees.

The luncheon in the Royal Ballroom begins at noon, with the first award scheduled to be presented at approximately 12:45 p.m. The ceremony will be over by 1:30.

We encourage your coverage of these average citizens being honored for helping to make this a safer community.

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